



WSS NEWS

# WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 2012 President's Invited Seminar: State of the Statistical System

Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician, OMB (speaker)  
**Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 pm**

Katherine Wallman serves as Chief Statistician at the United States Office of Management and Budget. She provides policy oversight, establishes priorities, advances long-term improvements, and sets standards for a Federal statistical establishment that comprises more than 80 agencies spread across every cabinet department. She will be discussing the various challenges that the current federal statistical system is facing, what works and what we should be thinking about.

Chaired by Jonaki Bose, WSS President and sponsored by WSS.

Seminar will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center, room 7.

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 SAVE THE DATE!
- 2 SEMINARS
- 8 CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS
- 17 CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS
- 20 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- 24 GET INVOLVED
- 25 WSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES,  
AND PROGRAMS
- 27 FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

NOTE: Video conferencing will **not** be available.

## SEMINARS

**Title:** **Roger Herriot Award Lecture: Statipedia at 1½ Years:**

**What's Working & What's Not**

**Speaker:** Michael Messner, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Chair:** To be determined

**Date & Time:** **Thursday, April 12, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Location:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsor:** WSS Methodology Program, ASA Social Statistics Section

**Abstract:**

Statipedia is a wiki for sharing information on federal statistics and economics. It is open to federal government employees and currently has nearly 100 registered users from 20 agencies. This presentation will reveal how Statipedia developed from an idea, to a pilot, and now an agency-hosted platform for collaboration across federal agencies. A brief tour of the wiki will show some of its content, including new pages, recent edits, DC-area events, and "At the Agencies" pages. Progress over the past 1.5 years will be summarized. Usage and growth have been steady, and although this is typical for "successful wikis," we had expected usage and growth to accelerate as new users were added. Something seems to be missing - or not working as it should. The presentation will conclude with an open discussion to address the problem:

- What is needed to ensure that Statipedia can be sustained?
- What is missing?
- What blocks users from making better use of the wiki - and what can be done to break down those barriers?
- Is it time to open this up to the larger statistics and economics community?

**Title:** **The New FERPA**  
**Speaker:** Michael Hawes, U.S. Department of Education  
**Chair:** To be announced.  
**Date & Time:** **Tuesday, April 17, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Location:**  
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center  
To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss;') by noon at least 2 working days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsors:**  
WSS Methodology Program  
Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, Confidentiality and Data Access Committee

**Abstract:**  
The Department of Education administers the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) which protects personally identifiable information (PII) from education records from disclosure without consent. This presentation will cover the basics of FERPA, exceptions to the consent requirement, and the implications of the January 2012 regulatory changes on data sharing and research.

**Title:** **Estimating the Binomial N**  
**Speaker:** William Link, Ph.D., Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland  
**Chair:** Mike Fleming  
**Date & Time:** **Wednesday, April 18, 2012 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**  
**Location:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center.

To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsor:** Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Abstract:**

The binomial distribution  $B(N,p)$  is one of the first encountered in an elementary statistics course; estimation and modeling of the success parameter  $p$  are routine problems for the applied statistician. In this seminar, we consider the problem of estimating the binomial index  $N$ . The problem is of relevance in wildlife studies, in human demographics, in sociology, in health studies, and quality control:  $X$  individuals in a population of size  $N$  are observed; we wish to make an inference about the size of the population.

Mark-recapture studies suppose  $X$  is distributed as a binomial with index  $N$  and success parameter  $p$  and use auxiliary data to obtain an estimate  $\hat{p}$ ; one can estimate  $N$  by  $X/\hat{p}$ .

Strictly speaking, identification of individuals isn't necessary for estimation of the binomial  $N$ . Instead, what is needed is replication. If  $X_i$  are iid  $B(N,p)$ , their mean is  $Np$  and their variance  $Np(1-p)$ ; thus the variance/mean ratio is a consistent estimate of  $(1-p)$ . Thus  $\hat{p} = 1 - S^2/\bar{X}$  and  $\hat{N} = \bar{X}/\hat{p}$  suggest themselves as estimators. Indeed, since the sample variance and mean are  $U$ -statistics, we can establish asymptotic normality and consistency of the estimators without too much difficulty.

The problem seems straightforward enough, but nonetheless has a long and not terribly encouraging history, dating back to work by Fisher (1942) and Haldane (1942); explanations for the "erratic behavior of estimators of  $N$ " and a review of related work are given by Hall (1994). In this talk we review some of the difficulties associated with estimation of the binomial  $N$ , examine recent developments based on model-based replication, and suggest diagnostic criteria allowing confidence in their application.

**Point of contact:** [wlink@usgs.gov](mailto:wlink@usgs.gov)

**Title:** **Measuring Sexual Identity in Federal Surveys**

**Panelists:** Kristen Miller (NCHS), Susan Newcomer (NICHD)

**Date & Time:** **April 19, 2012, 12:30 - 2:00p.m.**

**Location:**

BLS Conference Center

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE.

Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsors:** WSS Public Policy and Methodology Chairs

**Abstract:**

The Institute of Medicine reported in March, 2011 that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and other sexual and gender minority populations experience substantial health risks. Improved measurement of sexual identity in Federal surveys will support greater effectiveness of health interventions and services for individuals within those groups. Research to date on the construct and design of existing sexual identity questions will be presented, and test results of a revised version for use in the National Health Interview Survey will be discussed.

**Title:** **Transitioning to the New American FactFinder – a ½ day training session**

**Speakers:** Robert Chestnut and Nathan Ramsey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Chair:** Deborah Griffin, U.S. Census Bureau

**Date & Time:** **Wednesday, April 25, 12:30 - 3:30p.m.**

**Location:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 7 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsor:** WSS Methodology Program, ASA Social Statistics Section

**Abstract:**

The American FactFinder is the primary vehicle used by the Census Bureau to disseminate survey and census results to data users. The Census Bureau released a new version of the American FactFinder in 2011 and eliminated the legacy system in early 2012. The functionality and organization of the new American FactFinder differs markedly from the legacy system. The Census Bureau has designed this training session to provide an overview of the new American FactFinder using live demonstrations. We expect this session to help seasoned legacy system users gain confidence in this transition and new data users learn about this powerful data access tool. We will include applications to access information from the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey. Census Bureau staff will share shortcuts and tips. We will allow sufficient time to answer specific questions from session participants.

Note that this training session is by reservation only and capacity is limited. We will schedule a second training session if registration interest exceeds available seating.

**Title:** **Evaluating the Environmental Protection Agency's Leadership Development Workshops**

**Speaker:** Eduardo S. Rodela, Ph.D., Program Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Human Resources/Leadership Development Institute

**Chair:** Mel Kollander

**Date & Time:** **Monday, June 11, 2012 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center.  
To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Sponsor:** WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section

**Abstract:** Eduardo will discuss the training evaluation strategy for the Environmental Protection Agency's Leadership Development, Excellent in Supervision Module One workshops. He will describe how he uses Kirkpatrick's four levels of evaluation as the foundation for training evaluation. While he will describe Kirkpatrick's four levels, Eduardo will emphasize Level Three evaluations that focus on "critical behaviors" learned by Module One participants during the workshops. The four levels are: (1) customer satisfaction, (2) learning, (3) critical behaviors, and (4) outcomes. Eduardo also drew on the work of Robert Brinkerhoff to generate the questionnaire portion of the evaluation protocol.

The evaluation protocol is a multi-method approach to collect program data; the protocol specifies the use of questionnaires, focus groups, and individual interviews with workshop participants. In addition, plans are currently being drawn to involve participant supervisors' feedback to generate data regarding training participants' behavioral changes.

**Point of contact:** [esrodela@cox.net](mailto:esrodela@cox.net)

## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS

**Event:** **David Blackwell Memorial Conference**

**Date:** **April 19 – 20, 2012**

**Location:** Howard University, Washington, D.C.

**Description:**

Dr. David Blackwell, a mathematician and statistician, made phenomenal contributions to probability theory, statistics and game theory and was the first black scholar to be admitted to the National Academy of Sciences passed away on July 8, 2010 at the age of 91.

This two-day conference brings together leading theoretical and applied mathematicians, statisticians, and other scientists to:

1. Recognize and acknowledge Dr. Blackwell's myriad contributions to scholarship in multiple areas and disciplines.
2. Discuss how Dr. Blackwell's work shapes and influences the field-at-large and their respective scholarship.
3. Explore and develop new ideas and approaches to questions arising from mathematics and statistics.
4. Provide a forum for a diverse group of undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty to interact and collaborate with experts in the field of mathematics and statistics.

Evidence of Dr. Blackwell's intellectual contributions is visible in many arenas and scholars continue to build on that knowledge base. In so doing, conference participants continuously underscore and reinforce the intellectual merit of Dr. Blackwell's and their own work. The conference is an opportunity for intellectual exchange and discourse among scholars from diverse backgrounds. As new generations of scholars from increasingly diverse backgrounds enter the fields of mathematics and statistics, through the Dr. David Blackwell Memorial Conference, they become members of the community of scholars who innovate and make breakthroughs within their respective fields.

For additional information or to register, visit

<https://sites.google.com/site/conferenceblackwell/home/introduction>



**Event:** **Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS 2012)**

**Date:** **May 21-23, 2012**

**Hosts:** United Nations European Commission Economic Commission for Europe Statistical Office of the Conference of European Statisticians European Union (Eurostat)/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OCED) Statistics Directorate

**Location:** Offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington, D.C.

**Description:**

The Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems will be held at the Offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C., United States, from May 21 to 23, 2012, starting at 9.30 a.m.

The Meeting is primarily intended for IT managers from statistical organizations and other specialists responsible for the coordination, planning and management of complex projects in statistical information processing.

The work program of the meeting will consist of the following substantive themes:

- Architecture
- Streamlining statistical production
- Innovation
- Collaboration

Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to participate in the meeting. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa.

Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of the United States of America in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems.

The statistical offices and international organizations are asked to inform the UNECE secretariat whether their organization intends to participate at the meeting and/or submit a contribution on the topics mentioned above.

Please send a short abstract and indicate the topic to which the paper will refer as well as participant(s) name(s) and their contact data.

Participants are requested to fill in the Conference registration form, which will be available in Word format on the website

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.05.msis.html>.

It should be sent to the UNECE secretariat by **March 31, 2012** (as indicated on the form) so that it may be processed well in advance of the meeting.

**Event:** **Fourth International Conference on Establishment Surveys**

**Date:** **June 11–14, 2012**

**Host:** Survey Methods for Businesses, Farms, and Institutions

**Location:** Sheraton Centre Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

**Description:**

The ICES series of conferences serves an important role in the world of survey methodology. Few other conferences focus on methods and applications for establishment surveys.

The first three conferences held in 1993, 2000 and 2007 were successful, with more than 400 attendees per conference. The conferences covered a spectrum of survey methods for businesses, farms, and institutions. The fourth conference will continue along this path. Examples of potential topics include the following:

- Updating business registers
- Sample design challenges
- Questionnaire design for establishment surveys
- Collecting data electronically from establishment surveys
- Issues of multi-mode data collection
- Factors that affect establishment survey participation
- Generalized survey processing systems for establishment survey
- Measuring nonresponse bias
- Variance estimation
- Advances in disclosure protection
- Efficient use of administrative data in establishment surveys
- New directions in establishment surveys

**Information:**

(website) [www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012](http://www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012),

(email) [ices4@amstat.org](mailto:ices4@amstat.org).

**Event:** **Summer Conference Preview/Review 2012  
Call for Abstracts**

**Date:** **June 21-22, 2012**

**Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC

**Description:**

DC-AAPOR and WSS are teaming up to bring you a sample of the many amazing talks taking place this year at the National conferences. We know that you can't travel to every conference, so we want to give you the opportunity to join your local colleagues, share the ground-breaking work that you are doing, and hear what they have been presenting in far-off locales.

We are seeking speakers who will be presenting at the following 2012 conferences:

- AAPOR: [http://www.aapor.org/AAPOR\\_Annual\\_Conference.htm](http://www.aapor.org/AAPOR_Annual_Conference.htm)
- JSM: <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/>
- ICES: <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012/index.cfm?fuseaction=main>
- Field Directors: <http://www.ifdtdc.org/default.htm>
- Other related Survey Methodology conferences.

Please submit your abstracts (that have already been prepared, submitted and accepted to a 2012 Survey Methodology-related conference) by **midnight (EST) April 30, 2012** to [DCAAPORconference@gmail.com](mailto:DCAAPORconference@gmail.com).

Please include the following with your submission:

- Title
- Abstract (no longer than one page)
- Conference your talk has been accepted to
- Co-authors and/or co-presenters
- Length of talk

Registration for this two-day conference will be open to everyone, but speakers will get approximately half-off the cost of their registrations (\$65 instead of \$125). Students also will get approximately half-off their registration fee, so students who are speakers get to register for free! We hope that this will especially encourage students to submit their abstracts and join us.

Registration will open at the beginning of May. Stay tuned for details!

**Expected Schedule for the 2012 Conference**

(Subject to change based on submissions.)

**Registration:** Thurs, June 21 and Fri, June 22: 8:30 – 9:00

**Conference:** Thurs, June 21 and Fri, June 22: 9:00 – 4:30

**Social:** Thurs, June 21: 5:00-7:00

**Event:** **32<sup>nd</sup> General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW)**

**Date:** **August 5-11, 2012**

**Host:** Bureau of Economic Analysis

**Location:** Royal Sonesta Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts

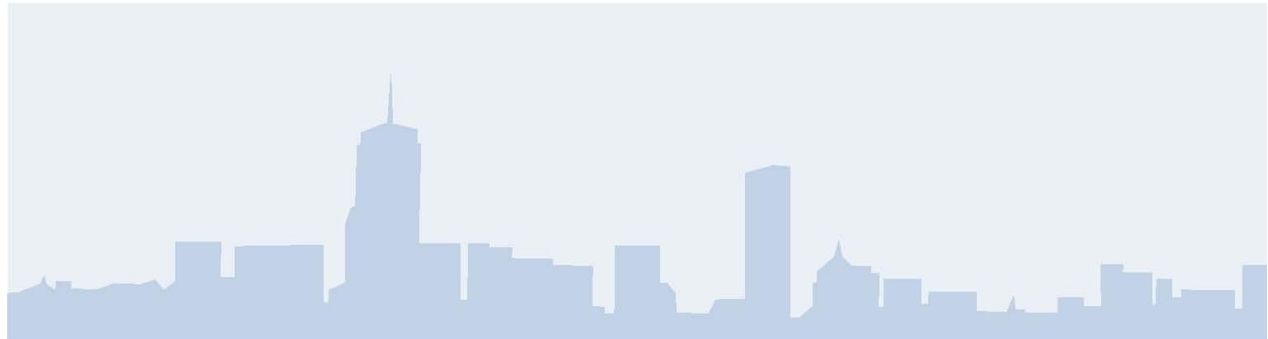
**Description:** See next page

**Registration:** Is now open

**Information:**

(website) [www.iariw2012.com](http://www.iariw2012.com),

(email) [IARIW2012@bea.gov](mailto:IARIW2012@bea.gov)



# SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for the 32nd General Conference of the IARIW

**WHEN  
WHERE**

**AUG. 5-11, 2012**

**Royal Sonesta Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts**

- Improved measures of economic welfare •
- Lessons learned from the financial crisis •

The conference provides a forum for statistical officials and experts from around the world to share information and ideas on how to develop new economic indicators that will help address some of the most important challenges confronting the global economy.

For more conference information and access to the program please visit [www.IARIW2012.com](http://www.IARIW2012.com)



**Event:** International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations  
**Date:** **October 31–November 3, 2012**  
**Location:** Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center,  
 New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.  
**Description:**

## H2R|2012

Survey Methods for Hard-to-Reach Populations

The H2R 2012 conference will bring together survey methodologists, sociologists, statisticians, demographers, ethnographers, and other professionals from around the world to present new and innovative techniques for surveying hard-to-reach populations. Addressing both the statistical and survey design aspects of including hard-to-reach groups, researchers will report findings from censuses, surveys, and other research related to the identification, definition, measurement, and methodologies for surveying and enumerating undercounted populations.

<p><b>Just Announced! Short Courses</b>            Social Media Research Methods            Respondent-Driven Sampling            Designing and Developing Instruments Across Cultures and Languages</p>	<p><b>Identifying, Defining, and Measuring the Hard-to-Reach (H2R)</b>            Defining H2R populations            Measuring undercounts for H2R groups            Improving measurement with administrative records            Sampling H2R populations</p>
<p><b>Techniques and Methodologies</b>            Recruitment methods            Targeting the H2R            Use of social marketing and outreach campaigns            Overcoming language and literacy barriers            Use of community-based organizations            Dealing with complex living and housing situations            Tracking and tracing H2R populations</p>	<p><b>H2R Subpopulations</b>            Racial minorities            Immigrant populations            Indigenous populations            Highly mobile and migrant populations            Homeless and refugee populations            Sexual minorities            Populations affected by natural disasters            Populations in zones of armed conflict            Stigmatized populations            Linguistic and cultural minorities</p>

Additional information is available on conference website or by email.

**Website:** [www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012](http://www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012)  
**Email:** H2R2012@amstat.org.



# **CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS**

## **Short Courses Sponsored by JPSM**

Course and registration information for all JPSM-sponsored short courses listed below are available at [www.jpsm.org/shortcourses](http://www.jpsm.org/shortcourses).

### **Total Survey Error**

**April 16-17, 2012** at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **April 2, 2012**

### **COGNITIVE INTERVIEWING: A HANDS-ON APPROACH**

**June 28-29, 2012** at Washington Marriott at Metro Center, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **June 14, 2012**

## **Graduate Courses at Johns Hopkins University/Applied and Computational Mathematics (ACM) Program**

Classes will be offered in the summer 2012 semester online or at locations in the Baltimore–Washington area (Howard and Montgomery Counties, Maryland).

Subject to meeting admission criteria, a non-degree candidate may register as a special student to take one or more courses to enhance mathematical and statistical skills. These courses are scheduled at times convenient for the working adult. Registration and general information is at [ep.jhu.edu](http://ep.jhu.edu). Information specific to the ACM Program is at [ep.jhu.edu/graduate-degree-programs/applied-and-computational-mathematics](http://ep.jhu.edu/graduate-degree-programs/applied-and-computational-mathematics).

Further information related to academic requirements and course content is available from [Dr. James Spall](mailto:Dr. James Spall), Program Chair (240-228-4960). Courses offered in summer 2012 are listed below. Detailed information for all courses listed below is available at the course webpages [ep.jhu.edu/course-homepages/](http://ep.jhu.edu/course-homepages/).

**625.201** General Applied Mathematics (This online course is designed for students who wish to take a refresher course in calculus and elementary differential equations; this course does not count for graduate credit)

*Instructor:* Cleon Davis  
*Time & location:* 05/29/2012 – 08/03/2012 online  
*Prerequisites:* Differential and integral calculus.

**625.403** Statistical Methods and Data Analysis

*Instructor:* Barry Bodt  
*Time & location:* 05/29/2012 – 08/03/2012 online  
*Prerequisite:* Multivariate calculus.

**625.409** Matrix Theory

*Instructor:* Daniel Rio  
*Time & location:* Tuesdays, 4:40 – 7:55 p.m., 06/05/2012 – 08/21/2012, Montgomery County Campus (Rockville, MD)  
*Prerequisite:* Multivariate calculus.

**625.436** Graph Theory

*Instructor:* Jason DeVinney  
*Time & location:* Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:00 – 7:40 p.m., 06/04/2012 – 07/18/2012, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)  
*Prerequisite:* Linear algebra.

**625.703** Functions of a Complex Variable

*Instructors:* J. Miller Whisnant and Michael Weisman  
*Time & location:* Wednesdays, 5:00 – 8:05 p.m., 05/30/2012 – 08/15/2012, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)  
*Prerequisite:* Real analysis and ordinary differential equations.

**625.714** Introductory Stochastic Differential Equations with Applications

*Instructor:* John Burkhardt

*Time & location:* Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:20 – 10:00 p.m., 06/05/2012 – 07/17/2012,  
Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

*Prerequisites:* Multivariate calculus and a graduate course in probability and statistics.  
Exposure to ordinary differential equations.

**625.725** Theory of Statistics I

*Instructor:* Mostafa Aminzadeh

*Time & location:* Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 – 7:35 p.m., 05/29/2012 – 07/05/2012,  
Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

*Prerequisites:* Multivariate calculus and a graduate course in probability and statistics.

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## Statistician AOC Solutions

Skilled statistician with experience in providing statistical consulting support in the federal financial management industry. Individual possesses strong statistical background and proficiency in the use of statistical software (Microsoft Excel, Stata, etc.), as well as strong verbal and written communication, interpersonal, and client service skills. Individual must be skilled in developing professional written reports to fully document and explain statistical processes, explanations, work plans, and findings. Individual must have a flexible schedule and be responsive to varying timelines to meet client needs.

Individual has demonstrated experience in performing statistical analyses in support of complex projects related to:

- Federal Financial Management
- Federal Financial Statement Audit Readiness and Testwork
- Federal Financial Data Analysis

This resource should provide functional, technical, and/or administrative statistical support as directed in the above subject areas to assist with meeting client needs and objectives.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Perform varying statistical analyses in response to and in support of client needs.
- Develop and document work plans and statistical and analytical methodologies for proposal to client based on identified needs and requirements.
- Analyze numerical data to assist with resolving complex financial management and accounting problems and making predictions on future outcomes.
- Generate sample populations for various client test and review needs.
- Analyze, interpret, and summarize sample findings.
- Accurately display information into charts, tables, and written form for presentation and delivery purposes.
- Assist with development and delivery of presentations, reports, and work papers to client personnel, including senior executive level management, regarding statistical analyses.
- Assist with client communication as directed.
- Support status reporting development and delivery to client personnel as directed.

### Required Education and Experience

Minimum Bachelor's degree in Statistics from an accredited university. Minimum ten (10) years of experience in federal financial sector required.

**To Apply go to <http://www.aocolutions.com/careers.htm>, or send your resume to [droberts@aocolutions.com](mailto:droberts@aocolutions.com)**

EOE M/F/D/V

**Research Scientist/Statistician  
Insurance Institute for Highway Safety**

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, a nonprofit organization conducting multidisciplinary research, seeks a Research Scientist/Statistician to join our research program. Our organization is at the forefront of efforts to find effective means of decreasing the incidence and severity of motor vehicle crashes. Jobs feature highly competitive salaries, excellent benefits, and generous technical support.

**Duties:** Designing and conducting research projects and managing research performed by outside contractors; data collection; data analysis; evaluation of research literature; preparation of research reports; publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals; presentation of research findings to technical and nontechnical audiences.

**Qualifications:** Graduate degree in fields such as statistics, epidemiology, psychology, human factors, or transportation engineering; strong research design and analysis skills; strong written and verbal communication skills; demonstrated ability to conceive, design, and carry out research projects with minimal supervision; interest in solving real-world problems in collaboration with professionals from other disciplines; experience in highway safety is desirable.

Send resume and cover letter to:

Research  
Insurance Institute for Highway Safety  
1005 N Glebe Road, Suite 800  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Fax: 703-247-1587  
email: [research@iihs.org](mailto:research@iihs.org)

**Senior Sampling Statistician  
DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability  
Fairfax, Virginia, USA**

DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability is committed to driving the global transition toward a safe, reliable, efficient, and clean energy future. With a heritage of nearly 150 years, we specialize in providing world-class, innovative solutions in the fields of business and technical consultancy, testing, inspections & certification, risk management, and verification. As an objective and impartial knowledge-based company, we advise and support organizations along the energy value chain: producers, suppliers & end-users of energy, equipment manufacturers, as well as government bodies, corporations and non-governmental organizations. DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability is part of DNV, a global provider of services for managing risk with more than 10,000 employees in over 100 countries.

**Location and team**

DNV KEMA's Sustainable Use group is seeking a statistical expert in sampling and sample-based estimation to support research related to energy use and program evaluation. This individual will be expected to lead and provide advanced technical contributions to energy research and evaluation efforts throughout the US. The successful candidate will develop custom sample designs and estimation procedures to support research projects, provide quality control for more routine sampling situations, contribute sampling and estimation expertise to business development efforts, manage research projects, develop and mentor junior staff, and interface with clients. This position is based in our Fairfax, VA office.

**Tasks may include**

- Design complex samples and specify estimation and variance calculation procedures for surveys and other primary data collection to support research objectives
- Advise staff in DNV KEMA offices across the Americas on sampling and estimation methods
- Design or review data collection instruments
- Apply statistical methods including ratio estimation, model-based sampling, iterative proportional fitting, and pseudo-replication estimation of variance.
- Utilize DNV KEMA's Load Research Statistical Sampling (LRSS) software and contribute to development of new modules
- Manage projects, including client interaction, developing analysis plans and leading an analytical team
- Explore, manipulate and perform quality control on a wide variety of energy data and analyses
- Expand DNV KEMA's quantitative statistical offerings
- Manage subcontractors and internal staff responsible for primary data collection
- Prepare reports for clients covering research methodology, findings and program recommendations
- Assist and train less experienced analysts

**What we're asking**

- Master's degree in Statistics or related discipline. Doctorate preferred.
- Minimum 10 years applied statistics experience involving complex sample design
- Demonstrated expertise with statistical analysis software such as SAS (preferred) or STATA
- Knowledge and experience in the energy utility industry preferred
- Project management experience
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to manage time and workload effectively to complete multiple tasks and meet deadlines
- Demonstrated strong quantitative skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills

This is a US-based position; applicants must be fully authorized to work in the U.S.

**What we're offering**

DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability offers a congenial working environment, competitive salaries, and an exceptional benefits package.

**TO APPLY**

**Applications for this position are accepted online. Please visit:** <https://jobs-kema.icims.com/jobs/1708/job>

DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability is an equal opportunity employer.

Visit our website at [www.dnvkema.com](http://www.dnvkema.com)

## **GET INVOLVED!**

### **Seeking Volunteers for the USA Science and Engineering Festival/Expo ASA Booth**

WSS is seeking volunteers for the ASA booth at 2nd USA Science & Engineering Festival Expo, to be held at the DC Convention Center April 28-29, 2012. The festival features more than 3,000 exhibits, stage shows, and author presentations. The festival hours are 10am-6pm on Saturday (April 28) and 10am-4pm on Sunday (April 29).

Even if you can't volunteer, bring your whole family and give your future and current scientists the experience of a lifetime. Remember to check out the ASA booth! Visit the official festival website to view all exhibit and stage shows, download a map of the expo grounds, and view the entire festival calendar.

To volunteer, please contact Jill Montaquila ([jillmontaquila@westat.com](mailto:jillmontaquila@westat.com)).

### **Meetup Groups Near You**

There are several local professional Meetup groups that may be of interest to WSS members. All are welcome -- to attend, to meet others, and to present their work.

Data Science DC meets monthly, on weekday evenings, to discuss diverse topics in predictive analytics, applied machine learning, statistical modeling, open data, and data visualization. Meeting topics are varied and range from tutorials on basic concepts and their applications, to success stories from local practitioners, to discussions of tools, new technologies, and best practices.

<http://www.meetup.com/Data-Science-DC/>

The DC useR Group also meets monthly, and is dedicated to bringing together area practitioners of R to exchange knowledge, inspire new users, and spur the adoption of R for innovative research and commercial applications.

<http://www.meetup.com/R-users-DC/>



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Items for publication in the **May, 2012** issue of WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **15<sup>th</sup>** of the preceding month.

Email items to [wss.editor@gmail.com](mailto:wss.editor@gmail.com).

Please submit all materials as an attachment in **MS WORD** or **plain text**. Submissions in any other format (e.g., in an email) will be returned.

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